REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

It is respectfully requested that the period for reply to the October 12, 2000 Office Action be extended three months, i.e., to up to and including April 12, 2001. Submitted herewith is a check for $870.00 in payment of the fee therefor; and, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additionally required fee for the extension, or any other fee occasioned by this paper, or credit any overpayment in such fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

AMENDMENT

Kindly amend the application, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents as follows:

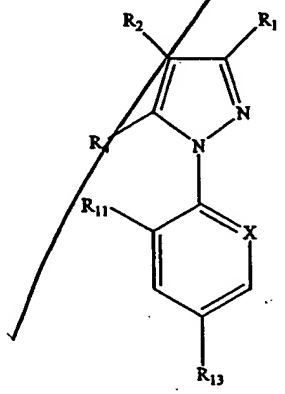
IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-15 and 17-21 without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents.

Please add new claims 22-49 without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents as follows:

22. A method for the eradication of fleas in domestic or accommodation premises of a domestic or laboratory mammal, comprising topically applying, at least monthly, to a localized region having a surface area between 5 and 10 cm^2 on the domestic or laboratory mammal, a parasitically effective amount of a spot-on topical preparation comprising a veterinarily acceptable vehicle and a compound of Formula I:

Formula I:



in which:

R_1 is CN, methyl or a halogen atom:

R_2 is $S(O)_nR_3$, 4,5-dicyanoimidazol-2-yl or haloalkyl;

R_3 is alkyl or haloalkyl;

R_4 is a hydrogen or halogen atom, NR_5R_6, $S(O)_m$-R_7, C(O)O-R_7, or an alkyl, haloalkyl, OR_8 or -N=C(R_9)(R_{10}) radical;

R_5 and R_6, independently of one another, are a hydrogen atom or an alkyl, haloalkyl, C(O)-alkyl, alkoxycarbonyl or $S(O)_rCF_3$ radical; or R_5 and R_6 can, optionally, together form a divalent alkylene radical which can be interrupted by one or two divalent heteroatoms;

R_7 is an alkyl or haloalkyl radical;

R_8 is an alkyl or haloalkyl radical or a hydrogen atom;

R_9 is an alkyl radical or a hydrogen atom;

R_{10} is a phenyl or heteroalkyl group which is optionally substituted by one or more halogen atoms or groups;

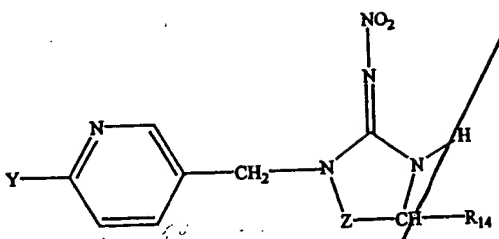
R_{11} and R_{12} are, independently of one another, a hydrogen or halogen atom, or optionally CN or NO_2;

R_{13} is a halogen atom or a haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, $S(O)_qCF_3$ or SF_5 group;

m, n, q or r are, independently of one another, an integer equal to 0, 1 or 2;

X is a trivalent nitrogen atom or a C-R_{12} radical, the three other valencies of the carbon atom being part of the aromatic ring;

or optionally of a compound of Formula II:



wherein Y is hydrogen or halogen

R_{14} is hydrogen or methyl

and Z is $-(CH_2)_n-$ with n = 1 or 2;

wherein, when the preparation is so applied to the mammal, through the action of the compound and the vehicle, the compound diffuses over the mammal's body, and then dries without crystallization and without modifying the mammal's appearance and coat.

23. The method according to claim 22, wherein the mammal is selected from the group consisting of canine and feline.

24. The method according to claim 22, wherein the heteroatom is selected from the group consisting of oxygen and sulfur.

25. The method according to claim 22, wherein R_{10} is selected from the group consisting of OH, -O-alkyl, -S-alkyl, cyano or alkyl.

26. The method according to claim 22, wherein when R_1 is methyl, R_3 is haloalkyl, R_4 is NH_2, R_{11} is Cl, R_{13} is CF_3 and X is N

27. The method according to claim 22, wherein when R_2 is 4, 8-dicyanoimidazol-2-yl, R_4 is Cl, R_{11} is Cl, R_{13} is CF_3 and X is =C-Cl.

28. The method according to claim 22, wherein in the Formula I:

R_1 is CN or methyl;

R_2 is $S(O)_nR_3$;

R_3 is haloalkyl or ethyl

R_4 is a hydrogen or halogen atom; or an NR_5R_6, $S(O)_mR7$, $C(O)R_7$, alkyl, haloalkyl or OR_8 radical or an $-N=C(R_9)(R_{10})$ radical;

R_5 and R_6 are, independently of one another, a hydrogen atom or an alkyl, haloalkyl, C(O) alkyl, $S(O)_rCF_3$ radical; or R_5 and R_6 can together form a divalent alkylene radical which can be interrupted by one or two divalent heteroatoms, such as oxygen or sulfur; and

R_{11} and R_{12} are, independently of one another, a hydrogen or halogen atom.

29. The method according to claim 26, wherein when R_1 is methyl, R_3 is haloalkyl, R_4 is NH_2, R_{11} is Cl, R_{13} is CF_3 and X is N.

30. The method according to claim 26, wherein R_1 is CN.

31. The method according to claim 22, wherein R_{13} is haloalkyl.

32. The method according to claim 1, wherein R_{13} is CF_3.

33. The method according to claim 22, wherein R_2 is $S(O)_nR_3$ and R_3 is a haloalkyl.

34. The method according to claim 22, wherein X is C-R_{12}, further wherein R_{12} is a halogen atom.

35. The method according to claim 22, wherein:

R_1 is CN;

R_3 is haloalkyl;

R_4 is NH_2,

R_{11} and R_{12} are, independently of one another, a halogen atom;

and/or R_{13} is haloalkyl.

36. The method according to claim 22, wherein the compound of Formula (I) is 1-[2, 6-Cl_2-4-CF_3-phenyl]-3-CN-4-[SO-CF_3]-5-NH_2-pyrazole.

37. The method according to claim 22, wherein in the compound of Formula (II) is 1-[(6-chloro-3-pyridinyl)methyl]-4, 5-dihydro-N-nitro-1H-imidazole-2-amine.

38. The method according to claim 22, wherein the dose of the compound is between 0.3 and 60 mg/kg of treated mammal

39. The method according to claim 22, wherein the dose of the compound is between 5 and 15 mg/kg of treated animal.

40. The method according to claim 22, wherein the amount of the topical preparation applied to felines is about 0.3 to 1 ml/mg.

41. The method according to claim 40, wherein the amount of the topical preparation applied to felines is about 0.3 to 0.5 ml/kg.

42. The method according to claim 22, wherein the amount of the topical preparation applied to canines is about 0.3 to 3 ml/kg.

43. The method according to claim 22, wherein the topical preparation further comprises a crystallization inhibitor, an organic solvent and an organic co-solvent.

44. The method according to claim 22, wherein the topical preparation further comprises a second parasiticide.

45. The method according to claim 41, wherein the second parasiticide is selected from the group consisting of those compounds mimicking juvenile hormones and chitin synthesis inhibitors.

46. The method according to claim 41, wherein the second parasiticide is an endectocidal parasiticide of macrocyclic lactone type.

47. The method according to claim 41, wherein the second parasiticide is selected from the group consisting of avermectins, ivermectin, abamectin, doramectin, moxydectin, milbemycins and derivatives thereof.

48. The method according to claim 22, characterized in that, when the premises contain several mammals, all the mammals are treated at the same time.

49. The method according to claim 22, characterized in that the treatment is carried out continuously, optionally taking account of the infestation seasons where infestation is seasonal. - -